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ABSTRACT

This book advances a philosophy of education and a vision of elementary schools as institutions that offer a solution that responds to the changing needs of today's families where schools become "schoolhomes" in which learning is animated by an ethic of social awareness. Following an introduction that sketches the sweeping social changes since the 19th Century, chapter 1, "School and Home", describes the ideas of John Dewey and Maria Montessori and argues for an educational approach that brings the domestic and the educational together. Chapter 2, "Culture and Curriculum," describes the challenge to the "homeschool" idea in a diverse and pluralistic society where no common culture binds students together. Chapter 3, "Learning To Live," considers the different educational needs of boys and girls. Chapter 4, "Domesticity Repressed," looks at the general rejection of home and domesticity in current cultures and argues that domesticity and concepts of family and home cannot be separated from educational institutions. Chapter 5, "Home and World," argues for the role of education in changing the world rather then preparing students for the "real world." An epilogue, "The Here and Now," describes the accomplishments of actual schools and individuals implementing programs with "homeschool" approaches. Included is a 146-item bibliography. (JB)

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